

**Progress under TREAD scheme
(2004-05 and 2005-06)**

(Rs. in Lakh)

Sl. No.	State	Gol grant for training & or for capacity building	Loan sanctioned by banks for entrepreneurial activities	No: of women beneficiaries
1	Assam	10.6	Nil	275
2	Total All India	69.31	148.43	1785

(ii) Entrepreneurship Development Programmes (EDPs)

To train individuals (including women) in taking up self-employment and other economic activities, Minister of Small Scale Industries conducts Entrepreneurship Development Programmes (EDPs) for duration of 4-6 weeks through its field level Institutions, viz., Small Industries Service Institutes (SISIs), Regional Testing Centers (RTCs) and autonomous bodies.

**Progress under EDPs
(2004-05 and 2005-06)**

Sl. No.	State	No. of programmes conducted	No. of participants	No. of women participants
1	Assam	70	1928	990
2	Total All India	1417	37446	12284

Iron-Ore policy

1947. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOOT: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry's proposal for a five year iron-ore policy framework to conserve resources to build up the domestic steel industry is pending for implementation for a quite long time;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) when the policy is likely to be finalized?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS): (a) and (b) Ministry of Steel has suggested to Ministry of Commerce, some amendments in the iron-ore export policy, with a view to conserve resources to build up the domestic steel industry, in August, 2006.

(c) A Committee of Secretaries (CoS) formed for considering the matter of restricting iron-ore exports has gone into the issue, in which Ministry of Steel has also expressed its views. The report has been submitted to the Government for appropriate decision.

Promotion of indigenous steel industry

1948. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are scarce resources with India's steel industry for producing quality products to meet our own requirements competing with the international standards;

(b) if so, the remedial steps Government propose to initiate in order to promote our indigenous steel industry;

(c) the steps Government propose to take to encourage production of finished steel goods within the country; and

(d) the details of quantity of finished steel goods that had been imported during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS): (a) to (c) The major raw material resources for making steel are iron ore and coking coal. As far as the availability of iron-ore to the domestic steel industry is concerned, presently steel makers are not facing significant immediate problems with regard to availability of iron-ore. However, in the long run the iron ore availability to domestic steel industries is likely to suffer due to export of iron-ore. Presently more than 80% of coking coal requirement is met through imports due to non-availability of quality coking coal indigenously. Various companies are on the look out for strategic alliances for ensuring raw material (coking coal, iron-ore) supplies, according to their corporate strategies.